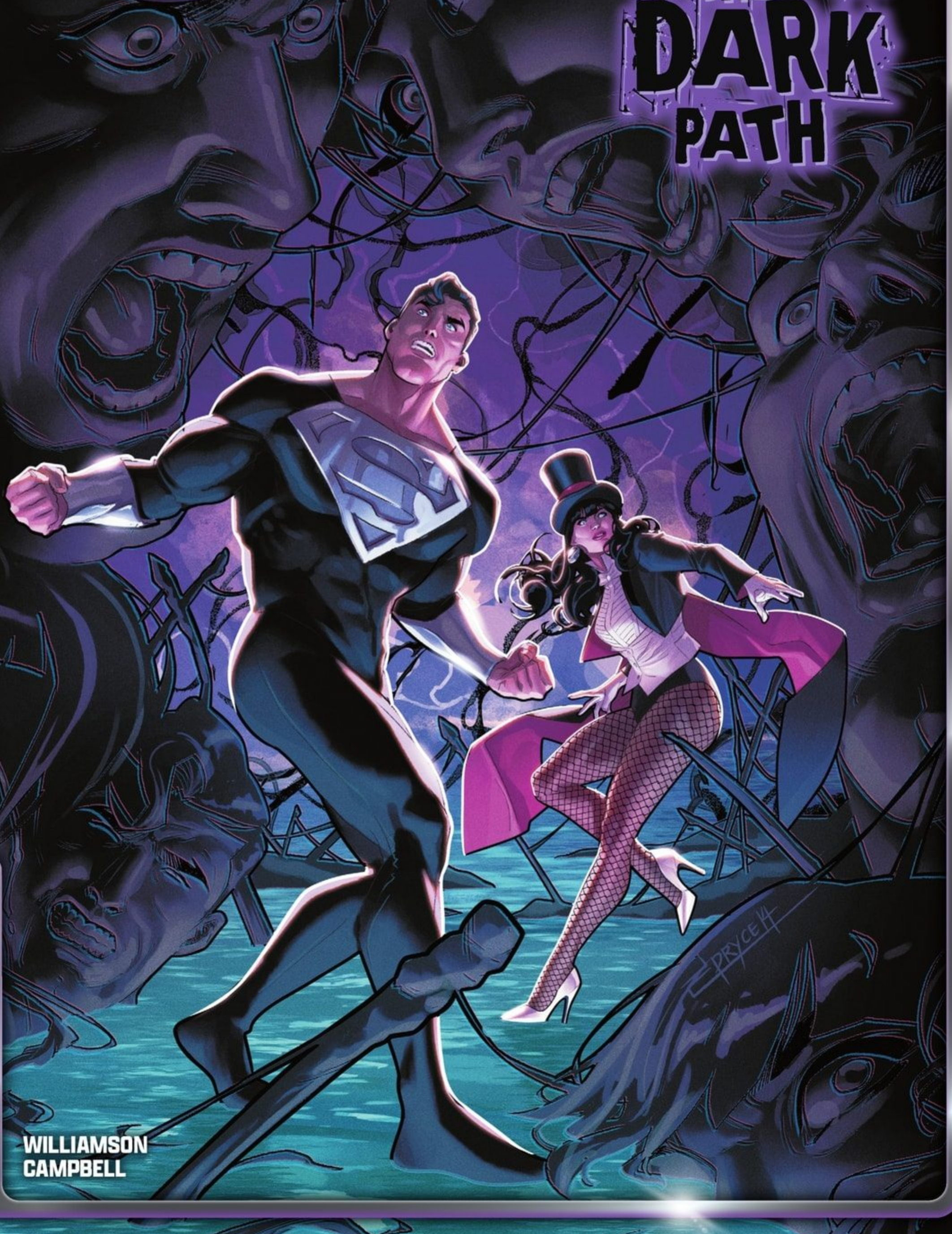
ABSOLUTE POWER TIE-IN

17

SUPERMAN

DOWN THE DARK PATH



WILLIAMSON
CAMPBELL

13+
TEEN

CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF THE ICONIC DC EVENT WITH A CAN'T-MISS '90s-FUELED OVERSIZE ISSUE!

ZERO HOUR

30TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

AUGUST

WRITTEN BY
DAN JURGENS
RON MARZ

ART BY
DAN JURGENS • DARRYL BANKS • KELLEY JONES • TOM GRUMMETT
JERRY ORDWAY • PAUL PELLETIER • HOWARD PORTER • AND MORE

THEN.

WELCOME TO SMALLVILLE

HOME TO SUPERBOY

KRASH

HOME TO SUPERBOY

RAD! LOOKS LIKE I FINALLY FOUND THE BOY OF STEEL'S *WEAKNESS!*

SHOOT...MA IS GONNA BE MAD. SHE JUST MADE THIS CAPE...

I REALLY--

--REALLY--

--DISLIKE...

"...MAGIC."

NOW.

JUSTICE LEAGUE DARK'S HEADQUARTERS?

I'M SURPRISED WALLER HASN'T FOUND IT YET, RIGHT UNDER THE HALL OF JUSTICE...

SHE PROBABLY HAS, *SUPERMAN.*

THE MAGIC FORCES AT WORK DOWN HERE WERE DESIGNED SO THAT ANYONE THAT ISN'T A MAGIC USER OR HAS A GUIDE COULD GET LOST AND SPEND AN ETERNITY WALKING THESE HALLS...

WE'RE LUCKY *WONDER WOMAN* STILL HAD HER SHORTCUT FROM *THEMYSCIRA*...

AMANDA WALLER HAS WON.
A PLANETWIDE BLITZKRIEG HAS ROBBED THE WORLD'S METAHUMANS OF THEIR SUPERPOWERS AND RESOURCES. THOSE FEW WHO HAVE THUS FAR EVADED CAPTURE ARE FUGITIVES ON THE RUN, HUNTED MERCILESSLY BY TASK FORCE VII, A REGIMENT OF UNSTOPPABLE AMAZOS BUILT BY WALLER'S ALLIES, FAILSAFE AND THE BRAINIAC QUEEN. SUPERMAN AND ZATANNA NOW VENTURE TO THE DARK ROADS TO FIND A PATH TO THE MULTIVERSE, AND *REINFORCEMENTS*...

ABSOLUTE POWER

"MAGIC MISERY TOUR"

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON — SCRIPT
JAMAL CAMPBELL — ART AND COVER
ARIANA MAHER — LETTERS

TONY S. DANIEL & TOMEU MOREY, STJEPAN ŠEJIĆ, CHUMA HILL, GUILLEM MARCH — VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
JASON GEYER & ALEX SAVIUK — SUPER POWERS ACTION FIGURE VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
ELIZABETH TORQUE — SWIMSUIT VARIANT COVER ARTIST
MIKEL JANÍN — RESISTANCE VARIANT COVER ARTIST
CHRIS BACHALO — BEETLEJUICE VARIANT COVER ARTIST
JILLIAN GRANT — ASSISTANT EDITOR
PAUL KAMINSKI — EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
SUPERBOY CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

"...AFTER WHAT HAPPENED AT THE FORTRESS OF SOLITUDE..."*

*THIS STORY TAKES PLACE AFTER *ABSOLUTE POWER* #2. CHECK OUT THAT ISSUE FOR THE FULL TRAGIC STORY! --PK

OKAY, NO ONE CAN FOLLOW US THROUGH NOW. WE'RE ON OUR OWN.

BUT THIS IS OUR BEST SHOT AT FINDING THE ***MAP OF MORDRU,*** SO WE CAN WALK THE ***DARK ROADS*** AND GET PRETTY MUCH ANYWHERE THERE IS A SHADOW.

INCLUDING THE ***MULTIVERSE...***

SUPERMAN?

MY SON.

WALLER...

KRAK

KRAK

KRAK

SUPERMAN, STOP!

SUPERMAN.

CLARK!

I'M... I'M SORRY, ***ZATANNA.***

I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE TO SEE ME LIKE THIS, BUT I HELD IT TOGETHER UNTIL WE LEFT THE ISLAND.

WALLER TURNED JON AGAINST ME...I HAD TO FIGHT ***MY SON.***

IT'S OKAY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN YOURSELF.

WHEN MY FATHER DIED, I DIDN'T HANDLE IT VERY WELL, EITHER.

IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE...

HUMAN.

WE'LL SAVE JON.

AND STOP WALLER.

NOW C'MON. WE BETTER GET WALKING.

REMEMBER WHEN I SAID YOU NEED TO BE A MAGIC USER TO BE DOWN HERE?

MY POWERS ARE STILL GONE, TOO, SO...

WE NEED TO FOCUS TO MAKE SURE WE DON'T GET...

LOST?!

METROPOLIS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU *LOST HIM?*

WE CAN'T HAVE SOMEONE LIKE *LEX LUTHOR* RUNNING AROUND UNATTENDED.

LUTHOR HAS A CREW WITH HIM. THAT REDHEAD KID FROM THE *DAILY PLANET*, HIS DAUGHTER, AND SILVER BANSHEE.

OUR RECORDS SHOW HER POWERS WERE REMOVED, BUT SHE ESCAPED...

SOMEONE CAME IN BLASTING AND TOOK US ALL OUT.

IT HAPPENED *FAST.*

THEY HAD ARMOR ON, WALL.

WE DIDN'T SEE WHO IT WAS...

PROBABLY SOMEONE HUMAN.

...BUT IT WASN'T LEX?

INTERESTING... WHY WOULDN'T LEX DO IT HIMSELF?

AND WHO WOULD BE STUPID ENOUGH TO NOT ONLY DEFEND LEX LUTHOR, BUT TO PUT ON HIS ARMOR AGAINST ME?

COAST IS CLEAR.
WE'RE SAFE...
FOR NOW, *LOIS.*
WELL, HOPEFULLY NONE OF WALLER'S FORCES THINK TO LOOK AT *LENA'S APARTMENT.*
MS. LANE?
CAN YOU EXPLAIN THE ARMOR TO ME?
YOU LOOK GREAT BY THE WAY, BUT *WHAT THE HECK?*
WALLER'S AI HAS TAKEN OVER THE *DAILY PLANET,* SO STAYING THERE WAS POINTLESS.
AND MY PLACE WAS BEING WATCHED. SO, I WENT TO *SUPERCORP* IN HOPES OF GETTING IN TOUCH WITH SUPERMAN OR ANYONE ELSE.
THERE WERE NEWS REPORTS THAT SUPERMAN WAS SHOT, BUT EVER SINCE WALLER'S AI TOOK OVER THE NEWS, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IS *REAL* OR HER *PROPAGANDA.*
I SAW YOU WERE UNDER ATTACK AND PUT THIS ARMOR ON.
AND YOU TOTALLY KICKED ASS, LOIS. THAT WAS *INSANE.*
BUT WHY WAS PEACEMAKER AFTER LEX?

WALLER DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DAD ON BRAINIAC'S SHIP, SIOBHAN.
SHE HAS NO IDEA YOU HAVE ***NO MEMORIES.***
THEY PROBABLY THINK YOU'RE STILL A THREAT TO HER...
I WISH I ***WAS*** THIS ***LEX*** WALLER KNEW.
THAT YOU ALL KNEW.
SO THAT I COULD ***HELP.***
BUT I'M ***NOT.***
HE SOUNDS LIKE HE WAS A GREAT MAN.
RIGHTTTTTT... ***ANYWAY.***
LOIS, WHERE ***IS*** EVERYONE?
WHERE'S MR. KENT?
CLARK IS SAFE.

I GOT HIM TO A SECURE LOCATION.

BUT LOIS, YOU NEED TO TAKE THAT SUPER-CORP ARMOR OFF. I WAS ABLE TO ***TRACK*** IT.

WHICH MEANS ***WALLER'S PEOPLE*** CAN, TOO.

MR... LUTHOR?

UH, DO WE KNOW EACH OTHER?

EXCUSE ME?

YOU TWO NEVER GOT TO TALK AFTER WE GOT BACK FROM BRAINIAC'S SHIP.

MY FATHER LOST HIS MEMORY.

WE CAN CATCH YOU UP LATER, ***MERCY.*** FIRST...

...WHERE ***IS*** SUPERMAN? I SAW A REPORT THAT HE WAS SHOT, BUT THAT WAS JUST MORE OF WALLER'S GARBAGE, RIGHT?

OH NO, LOIS...YOU DON'T KNOW?

"SUPERMAN DOESN'T HAVE HIS POWERS AND IS ON A DARK PATH TO GET THEM BACK..."

ZATANNA, EVER SINCE I GOT SHOT, I'VE HAD THESE... VISIONS...*IMAGES*...OF MY OWN PAST WITH MAGIC.

IT'S THE ***DARK ROADS.*** THEY MUST KNOW YOU WERE LOOKING FOR THEM, AND ARE REACHING OUT.

WE'RE NOT THERE NOW?

OH NO. THIS IS JUST THE PATH ***SWAMP THING*** USED TO USE FOR THE ***PARLIAMENT OF TREES.***

I HID SOMETHING THERE.

IT CAN HELP US GET WHERE WE NEED TO GO, BUT IT'S REALLY DANGEROUS.

HOPEFULLY SWAMP THING CAN HELP US...

WHOOSH

OH NO, SWAMP THING...?

WHERE ARE YOU?

WALLER'S TASK FORCE AGENTS!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!

AND WE WILL!

AFTER WE STOP WALLER AND I GET MY MAGIC BACK!

BUT RIGHT NOW, THIS FIGHT IS ***POINT-LESS.***

THERE'S TOO MANY AND WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME!

THEN WHAT DO WE DO?!

WE HOPE THE FIRE HASN'T GOTTEN TO IT YET!

THERE IT IS!

IT'S ON FIRE!

I KNOW!

AHHHHH!

GOT IT!

The Oblivion Bar

as told by The Queen of Fables

A BOOK?

IT'S A SHORT STORY WRITTEN BY THE **QUEEN OF FABLES** ABOUT THE **OBLIVION BAR.**

IT'S A BACK-DOOR I SAVED AS A "BREAK IN CASE OF EMERGENCY."

THERE THEY ARE! **GET THEM!**

IT'S GOING TO **HURT.**

I'M GETTING USED TO THAT.

OKAY. TOGETHER.

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A BAR CALLED THE OBLIVION BAR.

The Oblivion Bar.

Once upon a time there was a bar called

An impossible place, Oblivion sits

An improbable place, Oblivion

An imaginative

ish for its knot

out of the branches from

swung.

HOLD ON TIGHTTTTTTTTT!

WHHHOOOOOAAAAAA!

HEY, YOU HEARD WALLER'S ORDERS! ANY ARTIFACT NEEDS TO BE SENT TO THE ARMORY!

FWWOOSH

TOO LATE!

The Oblivion Bar

by The Queen of Fables

TRY NOT TO STAND OUT, SUPERMAN.

TOO LATE.

WE ARE CLEARLY NOT WANTED HERE.

I DON'T CARE.

SOMEONE HERE MUST KNOW WHERE THE MAP OF MORDRU IS.

ZATANNA ZATARA?

OH MY GOD. IT *IS* YOU.

M-MY NAME IS *ADAM.* ADAM AESFORD. I'M A *BIG* FAN.

HI...

NORMALLY I'M A *STAGE MAGICIAN.* LIKE YOU. WELL, A SWORD DANCER, ASPIRING. BUT GIGS ARE HARD TO COME BY AT THE MOMENT, SO I TOOK A JOB HERE. IT PAYS OKAY.

UM...

...Y-YOU *NEED* TO GET OUT OF HERE.

WE WERE ALREADY ATTACKED *ONCE,* AND THE BAR WAS ABLE TO REPAIR ITSELF, BUT...*

THE PEOPLE HERE ARE HOPING TO AVOID G-GETTING INVOLVED IN WHAT IS GOING ON OUTSIDE, AND Y'KNOW...

TH-THEY SAY YOU'RE *NOT* A MAGIC USER RIGHT NOW, SO...

*IN *ABSOLUTE POWER: TASK FORCE VII* #3. --PAYIN' ATTENTION PK

MY MEMBERSHIP MIGHT BE EXPIRED, BUT I THINK I'VE EARNED A LITTLE...

COWARDS.

EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU.

COWARDS.

I DON'T PRETEND TO KNOW THE WAYS OF MAGIC OR YOUR WORLD.

BUT THERE IS A ***WAR*** OUT THERE.

AND ***YOU*** STILL HAVE YOUR MAGIC ABILITIES.

YOU COULD BE OUT THERE ***HELPING*** US.

INSTEAD YOU STAY HERE AND ***DRINK.***

WHILE PEOPLE'S ***LIVES*** ARE AT RISK.

PEOPLE YOU CALL ***FRIENDS*** ARE IN DANGER...

...AND YOU ***HIDE.***

YOU'RE HERE, TOO. AIN'T YA?

I DON'T SEE *YOU* OUT THERE IN THE FIELD, SUPERMAN.

YOU BARGE IN HERE, BRINGING TROUBLE WITH YOU.

AND THEN YOU LECTURE *US?*

KID WARLOCK. I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT YOU.

I BET YOU WERE.

I'M GUESSING IT'S *JUST* WARLOCK NOW?

NAH, I KEPT THE *KID.* GOTTA RESPECT THE BRANDING.

NOW LET'S GO, BIG MAN.

NOT UNTIL WE GET THE MAP OF MORDRU!

FINE, HAVE IT YOUR WAY. BEEN WAITING TO DO THIS SINCE I WAS LITTLE.

I KNOW YOUR WEAKNESS!

FIRE OF FAUST!

FFWOOSH

YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR POWERS *AND* YOU'RE WEAK TO MAGIC!

I'M NOT AFRAID OF MAGIC.

NOTHING'S CHANGED. I'M VULNERABLE TO MAGIC NOW, JUST LIKE I WAS THEN!

CHAINS OF--

KRAK

COUGH... CHAINS... OF... COUGH...

GRAB

KRASH

ANYONE ELSE?

THE NEXT WORDS I HEAR BETTER BE...

"I "CAN "HELP."

WELL?

I CAN HELP.

LONG TIME, SUPERMAN.

LOVE THE NEW SUIT. IT'S VERY *NOW.*

ZEE, LOVELY AS THE FIRST DAY WE MET. YOU ALWAYS TAKE FISHNETS TO ANOTHER LEVEL.

THE MAP OF MORDRU CAME INTO MY POSSESSION QUITE SOME TIME AGO.

AND IT CAN BE YOURS.

AS LONG AS WE...

THE DEVIL

...CAN MAKE A DEAL.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE AND IN THE PAGES OF *ABSOLUTE POWER* ALL SUMMER LONG! WHAT COULD SUPERMAN AND ZATANNA POSSIBLY TRADE TO *NERON* TO GET THE MAP? OH YEAH...

REMEMBERING AN ICON
TRINA ROBBINS
1938-2024

Trina Robbins

WELL, I'VE BEEN IN THIS BUSINESS A FEW YEARS.

IT WOULD BE GROSSLY NAIVE AND PRESUMPTUOUS TO THINK THAT A COMIC BOOK CAN CHANGE THE WORLD'S THINKING.

--BUT IT DOESN'T HURT TO TRY.

FROM A STORY
WRITTEN BY **GEORGE PÉREZ**,
DRAWN BY **RAMONA FRADON**,
COLORED BY **SHELLEY EIBER**,
AND LETTERED BY **CARRIE SPIEGLE**

IN HONOR OF
TRINA ROBBINS.

WHO HAS JOINED THE TRINITY OF EVIL?

© & ™ DC.

ABSOLUTE POWER #2

THINGS GO FROM BAD TO WORSE FOR DC'S HEROES, COURTESY OF THE SUPERSTAR TEAM OF MARK WAID and DAN MORA!

AUGUST

TASK FORCE VII DOMINATES THE DC UNIVERSE!

AUGUST:

ABSOLUTE POWER #2

ABSOLUTE POWER: TASK FORCE VII #4

ABSOLUTE POWER: TASK FORCE VII #5

ABSOLUTE POWER: ORIGINS #2

TIE-INS:

BATMAN #151

GREEN LANTERN #14

SUPERMAN #17

WONDER WOMAN #12

GREEN ARROW #15

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THE BLOCKBUSTER EVENT CONTINUES IN SEPTEMBER!

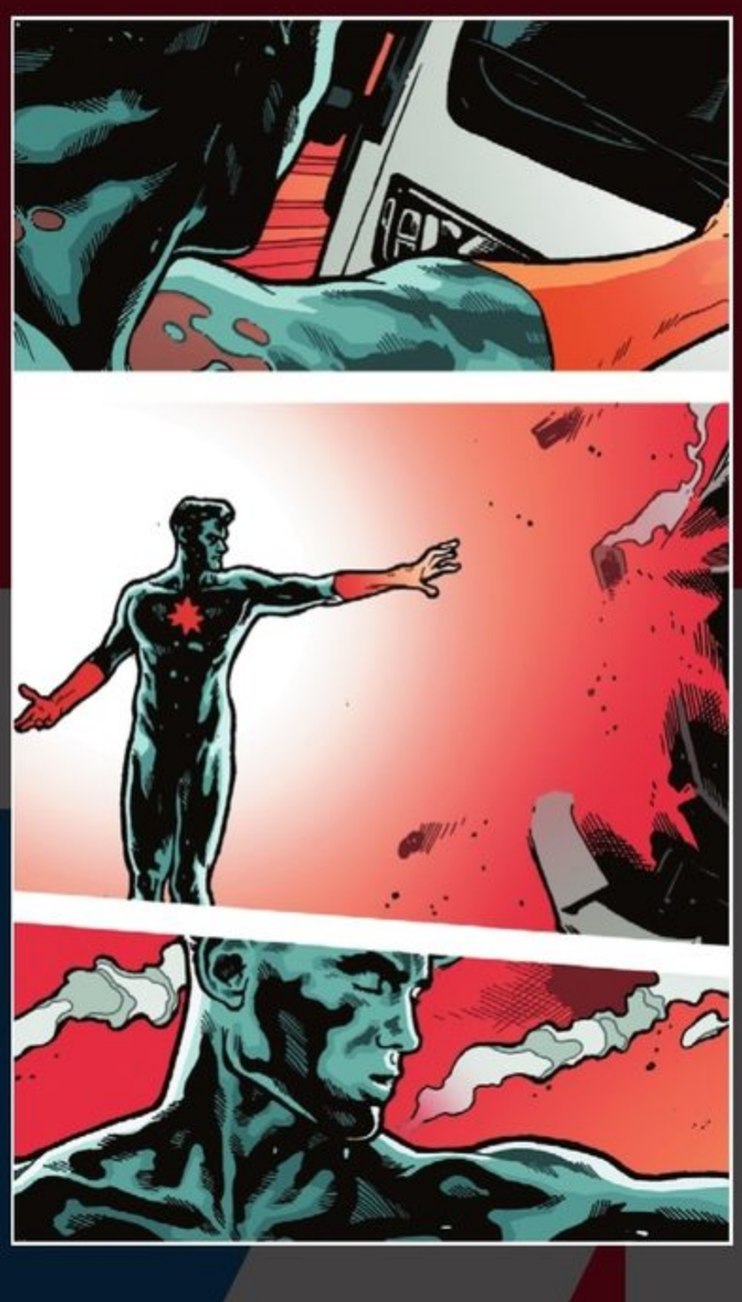
DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

JENNY SPARKS

DC BLACK LABEL
Ages 17+

When Captain Atom goes rogue, threatening to destroy the planet he once swore to protect, it'll take one of DC's most unconventional heroes to stop him.

Jenny Sparks, the Spirit of the 20th Century, entered this Earth at the stroke of midnight on January 1, 1900, and hasn't stopped her crusade for justice since. In our world, Jenny Sparks debuted in *Stormwatch* #37, and soon became a fan-favorite character in the revolutionary series *The Authority*.



With a snap of her fingers, she can dig into the lives of the most powerful people on the planet and fight back against their corruption. This August, Jenny Sparks is resurrected in the 21st century for a brand-new adventure in a seven-issue DC Black Label series from Eisner Award-winning writer Tom King and rising star artist Jeff Spokes.

"*Jenny Sparks* is an epic, thrilling, mind-blowing series in the tradition of *Strange Adventures*, *Mister Miracle*, and *The Human Target*," King said. "*Jenny Sparks* seeks to set the bar in superhero comics, to show how our heroes can illuminate and define our moment."

Art featured by Jeff Spokes

King described *Jenny Sparks* as the character's mission to "save five men and women taken hostage by an out-of-control and infinitely powered Captain Atom. Through this lens, we'll explore the grip of Jenny's time on our own; how, despite all our desperate prayers, the sins of our past refuse to die away."

DON'T MISS *JENNY SPARKS* #1, ON SALE THIS AUGUST

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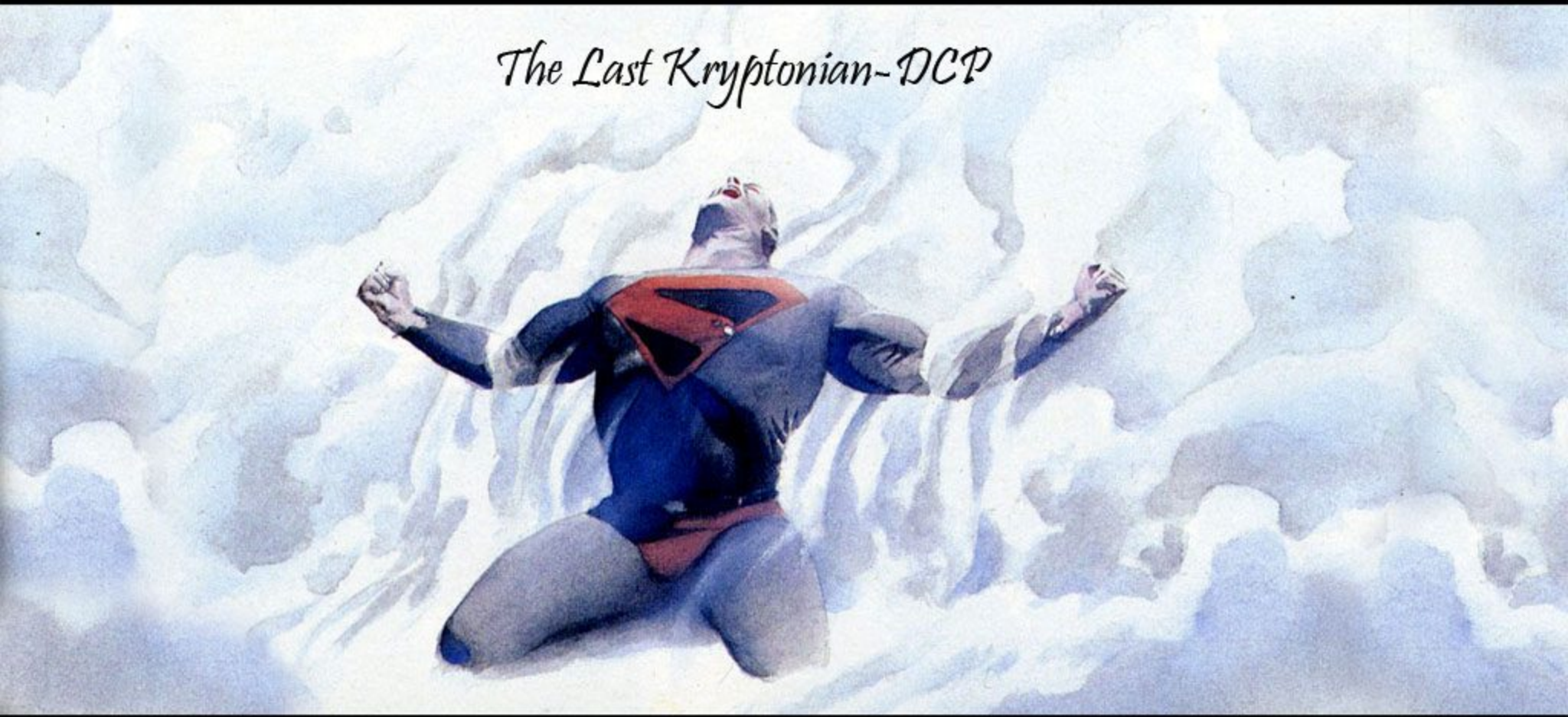
The Last Kryptonian-DCP